

COMBINED DISTRICT COUNCILS,

GUISBOROUGH UNION.

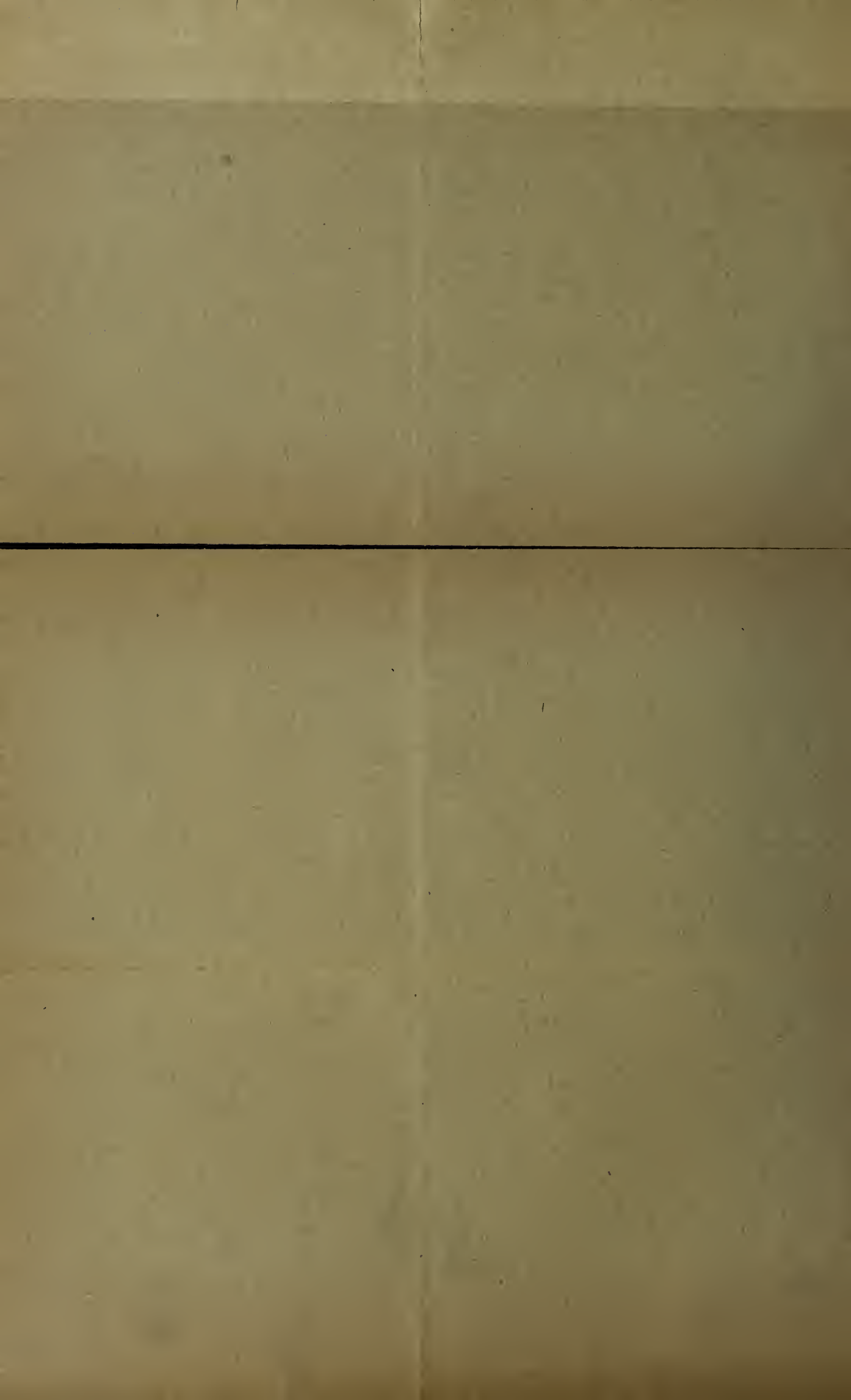
❖ REPORT ❖

FOR THE YEAR 1905.

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

W. W. STAINTHORPE, M.D., C.M., D.P.H.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

OF THE

GUISBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL			
GUISBOROUGH URBAN			
LOFTUS	"	"	"
REDCAR	"	"	"
SALTBURN	"	"	"
SKELTON & BROTTON	"	"	"

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my report for the year ending December 31st, 1905.

Year by year the preparation of this Report and the compilation of the Tables of Statistics required by the Local Government Board entail more and more consideration and labour. The numerous Acts and Regulations which have come into force during the last two decades have very considerably increased the work of health officers and hence of matters to be reported upon. Up to a few years ago two statistical Tables were required by the Local Government Board, one showing the causes of and ages at death, the other the number of infectious cases notified, &c. These were altered, more details being required, and a third Table added in which are to be entered in 12 columns the various birth and death rates for the year in review and the previous nine years. Last year a fourth Table, in which entries are to be made of certain particulars concerning Factories and Workshops, was added. This year a fifth Table is required; in this are to be inserted the causes of, and ages at, death of all infants under one year of age. One of each for each district in the Union is to be compiled. Three copies of each are required, one to be filed, one to be forwarded to the Local Government Board, one to the County Council. In the case of the Table referring to Factories and Workshops two additional copies have to be prepared, one for the Home Office, the second to lay before the District Council.

Statistics.

The births registered during the year numbered 1427 (725 males, 702 females), 84 more than in 1904; birth rate 31·10. The number of deaths was 652 (322 males, 330 females); death rate 14·21. The zymotic death rate was low, 0·74. The deaths resulting from infectious diseases were,—whooping-cough 6,—measles 2,—scarlet fever 3,—diphtheria and membranous croup 13,—enteric fever 4. Of the total number of deaths 39·2 per cent occurred in children under five years of age. The number of deaths among infants under 12 months was 177. The infantile mortality rate per 1000 legitimate births was 120·6;—per 1000 illegitimate it was 212·1. The infantile mortality rate varied in the several districts, the highest (157·4) being in the Guisborough rural, the lowest (57·9), in the Saltburn urban. Of the deaths among infants 35 were certified as due to premature birth, 24 to wasting, marasmus, &c., 16 to convulsions, 25 to bronchitis, 14 to tuberculous diseases, 17 to enteritis, gastric catarrh, &c., 3 to diarrhoea, 1 to measles, 5 to whooping cough. It will be noticed that the number of deaths due to diarrhoea was unusually small (3), notwithstanding the dryness of the summer. There is some reason to believe that house-flies bear an important part in the contamination of milk and other food, acting as carriers of bacilli from ash-pits, &c. House-flies appeared to be less numerous than usual in the summer and autumn.

In table 'A' will be found the birth and death rates in the several Districts. It is desirable to draw attention to the fallacy of estimating the sanitary condition of a district by its death rate alone. There are other factors affecting this rate, factors which vary considerably. Of these the more important are,—the birth rate,—the density of population, that is the number of persons housed on a given area,—the trade or trades in which the majority of the population are employed,—the social position of the bulk of the inhabitants. Consider the effect of the birth rate;—in 1904 the birth rate of Loftus was 36·52, that of Saltburn 18·88. This means that, proportionally, there is a much larger child population in Loftus than in Saltburn. As nearly half of the total number of deaths occur in children under five years of age the effect on the death rate of Loftus by its higher birth rate, compared with Saltburn, can readily be understood. The influence on the death rate of the massing of people together in crowded courts, narrow streets, back-to-back houses not being immediate, not producing any special form of disease, receives little consideration. Its effects are slow and insidious but none the less sure, decreasing the power naturally possessed by the body to resist disease. So far as trades are concerned, some involve greater risk than others. But there is another way in which the trade of a district influences its death rate. In a one-trade town

the boys must either take up that industry or leave the town. Where the industry is not expanding it is certain many boys must find employment elsewhere. A large number of the girls must perforce go into other towns. In this way such a district is depleted of a portion of its most viable population, fewer deaths occurring in persons between the ages of 15 and 25 than during any other age period after maturity. Conversely the towns receiving these young persons has its most viable portion of the community increased. The result is that in the former district (other things being equal) the death rate will be proportionately higher, in the latter lower.

Where dwellings are crowded together without sufficient air space for each, the atmosphere becomes vitiated, germ and smokeladen;—bedroom windows are kept closed to shut out the stink from refuse receptacles and closet pits or pans. If the public health is to be improved it is essential that the bye-laws with regard to yard area should be enforced. Is it just to permit of the building of a house the yard space of which is below the minimum yard area because that of the adjoining house is above the minimum? Such a procedure is a premium on speculative building.

Measles.

This disease prevailed in epidemic form at Fryup and at New Marske, both in the Guisborough rural district necessitating closure of the schools at these places. An epidemic of what was apparently measles so affected the attendance at Scaling school (also in the Guisborough rural district), as to cause me to recommend its closure. Scaling consists of a few scattered houses on the moor and being some distance from the residence of any practitioner, medical aid was not sought.

Smallpox.

One case was notified. The patient, on a visit to friends in the Guisborough rural district, was removed to the isolation hospital near New Marske. The various steps necessary to prevent the spread of the disease, including re-vaccination, were carried out. The attack was very much modified by vaccination.

Scarlet Fever.

The following Table shows the number of cases reported during each quarter of the year.

District.	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Totals.	Number of Houses Infected.
Guisborough Rural ...	2	2	1	7	12	6
Guisborough Urban ...	5	22	90	33	150	100
Loftus „ ...	9	6	8	8	31	22
Redcar „ ...	14	10	5	7	36	29
Saltburn „ ...	0	0	1	13	14	10
Skelton & Brotton Urban	13	38	27	26	104	63

This fever prevailed in epidemic form in the Guisborough urban district for six months; the outbreak commenced in May and began to abate in November. During the years 1902/3/4 Guisborough had been comparatively free from the disease, the average number per year being 13·1. There is little doubt that in the first instance the fever was spread through the attendance at school of a child or children in an infectious condition, later on through indifference and carelessness. An attempt was made to check the epidemic by school-closure, but with little success. As most of the cases were of a very mild type it is probable that many never came under notice. In some instances, influenced by selfish motives, medical aid is not sought, the householder not wishing to have it known that the fever exists in his house. A case, notified in one of the districts recently, there is every reason to believe resulted from a visit to a farmhouse in which at the time there was a scarlet fever patient. The existence of this case was knowingly kept a secret, the occupier not wishing to have the supply of milk from his farm interfered with.

The history of the small outbreak in Saltburn which began at the end of September showed plainly that most of the infected children contracted the disease at school. The initial case I could not trace. From the head teacher I obtained a list of absentees and the assigned causes. Making enquiries at the homes of some of these I ascertained the probable existence of

the fever in two of them. Up to the time of my visit medical attendance had not been sought in either. In both, the children (two in one house, one in the second), were subsequently notified as suffering from scarlet fever, and in both secondary cases occurred. At the time of my visit to one of the houses mentioned, occupied by a dairyman, the patient was in the 'peeling' stage. Legal proceedings were taken against this person under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act ; a fine of 20/- and costs was imposed.

Of the total number of cases reported (347), 3 only were fatal.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

The following Table shows the number of cases notified during each quarter of the year :—

District.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Number of Houses Infected.
Guisborough Rural ...	21	14	5	2	33
Guisborough Urban ...	7	1	1	4	10
Loftus Urban ...	2	0	0	0	2
Redcar Urban ...	1	3	1	0	5
Saltburn Urban ...	0	0	0	2	2
Skelton and Brotton ...	14	10	1	1	19

Of the 42 in the Guisborough rural district 9 occurred at Lackenby, 23 at Lazenby, 2 at Wilton : all these places are in the parish of Wilton. The disease first appeared at Lackenby : the children living at this village attend school at Eston : there is little doubt the infection was imported from that place. During the prevalence of diphtheria at Lackenby children living there were prohibited attendance at school and Sunday-school. The disease spread to Lazenby and Wilton. The schools in these villages were visited by me for the purpose of ascertaining if any children suffering from sore throat were present and of obtaining the names and addresses of children absent because of illness. Four pupils suffering from sore throat were sent home. Three absentees were visited, these were found to have throat mischief. The names and addresses of the seven I forwarded to the respective medical attendants :—result—four were notified as suffering from diphtheria. The schools were closed for four weeks ; as on their re-opening the disease again showed a tendency to spread they were closed for a further period of three weeks.

Of the remaining cases in the Guisborough rural district one (fatal) occurred at Common-dale, 7 at New Marske.

Of the thirteen in the Guisborough urban district seven occurred in the first three months of the year. No one part of the town was particularly affected, the infected houses being widely separate. The two cases in the Loftus district were reported in March, both on the same day. No direct connection could be traced between any two or more of the 5 in the Redcar district, nor between the 2 in the Saltburn. Of the 26 in the Skelton and Brotton, 13 occurred at Brotton, the remaining cases were scattered over the other parts of the district. To what extent school influence was a factor in the spread of the disease in Brotton it is difficult to say ; the proximity to each other of some of the infected houses and the dates of notification of the cases in these indicate that infection was conveyed from child to child *out of the school*.

Since the year 1900 there has been a considerable increase in the number of cases of diphtheria notified. During the three years, 1892/3/4, 75 cases were reported, in the following three years 66, the number in the years 1898, 1899, 1900, falling to 26. In the next 3 years the number rose to 143. Nor was the increase confined to any one district. Possibly the increase is more apparent than real. In a large number of the milder cases it is exceedingly difficult, and in some impossible, to differentiate between ordinary non-specific sore-throat and diphtheria by

the clinical symptoms alone. Since 1901 examinations of 'swabs' from the throats of suspects for the purpose of ascertaining the presence or absence of the specific bacillus is carried out at the cost of the Councils. This additional means of diagnosis has no doubt enabled practitioners to notify a class of cases which without its aid they did not feel justified in doing. That to this is to be attributed in some part the increase in the cases reported appears to be borne out by the ratio between the number notified and those which had a fatal termination. During the triennium 1895/6/7 a little over one-third of the cases were fatal,—in the following three years nearly half, whilst during the years 1901/2/3 less than one-fourth ended fatally. Only a portion of the increase can be thus explained. For the number of fatal cases in the last triennium was 31 compared with 34 in the preceeding *six* years. Diphtheria appears to occur in cycles of varying length ; periodicity may therefore account for some portion of the increase.

An impression prevails among the public that diphtheria is due to the inhalation of sewer gas. There is no proof that sewer gas *per se* gives rise to this disease. Sewer gas *may* act as carrier of the bacillus but in my opinion this is of rare occurrence. The gases resulting from the decomposition of animal and vegetable matter, whether from a sewer or other source, may affect the mucous membrane of the mouth and throat of the person inhaling them in such a way as to permit of the bacillus, should it gain access, producing its toxic effect.

I wish to deduce a practical lesson :—you may not be able to prevent the invasion of the unseen army of bacilli but you may, by maintaining a high degree of health, more or less successfully oppose their entrance through the inner walls of defence. And whilst demanding the faithful performance of the duties devolving upon Sanitary Authorities and their officials do not forget that individual attention to the laws of health is of greater importance.

Two facts connected with diphtheria indicate that some condition additional to the presence of the bacillus is requisite for the production of the disease ; one is that the specific organism is often found in the mouths of persons coming in contact with those suffering therefrom without their being in any way affected thereby ;—the other is that secondary cases in an infected house is the exception rather than the rule.

Enteric Fever.

Nine cases of this fever were reported, viz. :—one in the Guisborough rural district, two in the Loftus, two in the Redcar, one in the Saltburn, and three in the Skelton and Brotton. The single case in the Guisborough rural and one of the two in the Loftus were imported ; one of the two in the Redcar was probably imported. Both the cases in the Redcar district occurred at Tod Point, in adjoining cottages, these houses have one privy-pit common to both. Although there was a lapse of about eight months between the two it is highly probable that the second resulted from the first, the channel of infection being the privy pit. Recent researches show that under certain conditions, the specific bacillus of enteric fever may remain viable for a considerable time in soil. It has also been ascertained that many months may elapse before the dejecta of a person who has suffered from the fever cease to contain the bacilli, even though he may have regained his normal state of health. Cogent reasons, among many others, why the old form of privy should be completely abolished. The privy-pit with its dirty stinking walls pollutes the soil and air around dwellings, through it food is polluted and made poisonous, bedroom windows remain closed to keep out the stench, further pollution of air and soil takes place when, during scavenging, the nightsoil is dumped on the roadway to be carted away : in short it is an abomination, a disgrace to civilisation, a remnant of barbarism : a breeding place for disease producing germs.

There is reason to believe that the single case of enteric fever at Saltburn resulted from the eating of contaminated shell-fish. Of the three in the Skelton and Brotton district one occurred at a farm-house near Brotton, one at Lingdale, the third at Carlin How.

Four of the nine cases ended fatally.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

On October 25th, a Local Government Board enquiry was held at Saltburn re the formation of a Joint (Smallpox) Hospital Board embracing the Guisborough rural, and the Guisborough, Redcar, Saltburn, and Skelton and Brotton urban districts. The draft of the Provisional Order for forming a United District has recently been received. With regard to the proposed Joint Hospital, in which to isolate cases of infectious diseases other than smallpox, for

the urban districts of Redcar and Saltburn and the parishes of Marske, Upleatham, Kirkleatham, and Wilton in the Guisborough rural district, progress has been made. After some difficulty a suitable site has been obtained. Each authority concerned has asked for particulars of cost and of upkeep. A meeting of the Joint Committee is to be held shortly at which these particulars will be discussed. Should this scheme not be carried out there will be no provision either in the Saltburn urban or in the Guisborough rural district for the isolation of infectious cases (other than smallpox).

Tubercular Diseases.

Twenty-nine deaths were certified as due to phthisis and thirty-five to other forms of tuberculosis. Twenty-three rooms which had been occupied by persons who had succumbed to tubercular disease were disinfected. The death rate from tubercular diseases per 1000 of the population in each of the districts was as follows :—

Guisborough rural	...	1.50	Redcar urban	...	...	0.82
Guisborough urban	...	0.52	Saltburn urban	...	...	1.17
Loftus urban	...	1.14	Skelton and Brotton urban	...	...	2.23

So much attention has been drawn to the open-air treatment of consumption that it is to be feared *preventive* treatment may be overlooked. Prevention is better than cure. The maintenance of a high degree of health is the best preventive, more especially in the case of persons who have inherited a susceptibility to the disease. Whilst something may be done towards this end by sanitary authorities more can and must be done by the individual : well ventilated bedrooms, good and easily digested food, suitable clothing, personal cleanliness, avoidance of excess of any kind, — these are the personal factors without which the action of any sanitary authority is useless.

Recently the North Riding Education Authority resolved to remove from school registers the names of children certified to be suffering from consumption and to forward to the district health officer the names and addresses of such children : when so notified I forward to the parents of the affected child a card of 'Instructions' as to the precautions to be taken.

Overcrowding.

What constitutes overcrowding ? It has no legal definition nor is there any legal standard as regards air space. Nor perhaps is it desirable there should be, though if there were the health officer would not so often find himself placed in a very difficult position. Anxious on the one hand to improve the conditions under which those placed under his care live, he on the other hand knows that were he to recommend the Council to take action it might result in the occupier of what he considers to be an overcrowded house losing his work and swelling the ranks of the unemployed. Each case, of course, requires to be considered on its own merits. In deciding upon the step to take I am influenced by the position of the house, the means of ventilation, the cleanliness or otherwise of the house and its occupants, &c. The evil effects of limited air-space would be considerably lessened if bedroom windows were kept open, day and night,—if chimneys were permitted to act as ventilators instead of being blocked up with bags of straw, and if greater attention were paid to general cleanliness.

Water Supplies.

The drought experienced in the spring and early summer led me to make a number of inspections and enquiries as to possible sources of supply, public and private, in the event of the ordinary sources failing. Towards the end of the summer the rain-fall was such as to render it unnecessary to proceed further with the enquiries.

Cowsheds and Dairies.

The following list shows the number of these on the Register in each of the districts and the number inspected by me during the year.

District.	No. on Register.	No. Inspected.
Guisborough Rural	... 38	... 36
Guisborough Urban	... 23	... 17
Loftus	... 24	... 22
Redcar	... 24	... all
Skelton and Brotton Urban	... 22	... 20
Saltburn Urban	... 4	... 3

Necessary as it is that cowsheds should be maintained in a cleanly condition, be efficiently lighted and ventilated, and have a sufficiency of air-space per cow, it is of greater importance that the conditions under which the cows are milked and the milk distributed should be such as to prevent its contamination. One of the Regulations in force in all the districts (except the Skelton and Brotton) is as follows:—"a cowkeeper shall not cause or suffer any cow belonging to him or "under his care or control to be milked for the purpose of obtaining milk for sale unless at the "time of milking, the udder and teats of such cow are thoroughly clean ; and unless the hands of "the person milking such cow, also, are thoroughly clean and free from all infection and "contamination." This regulation is little more than a dead letter for with the present staff of officials it is utterly impossible to see that it is carried out. There are 125 cowsheds on the registers of the various districts scattered over a wide area. The Regulations as to cowsheds and dairies require alteration. At present any cowkeeper can have his name placed on the Register without proviso. This should be amended:—no cowkeeper's name should be entered until his premises have been inspected,—the Council should have power (under appeal to Petty Sessions) to refuse to register on the ground that the premises were unsuitable or not maintained in a cleanly condition. The Council should have power also to erase the name of any cowkeeper who had been thrice convicted of any breach of the regulations. Even the simple fact that the Council were so empowered would have a beneficial effect. In none of the industries connected with the supply of food is the personal equation of so much importance as in that pertaining to the supply and distribution of milk.

As recommended by me, notices calling attention to the requirement of the Regulations as to whitewashing of cowsheds are sent twice a year to cowkeepers ; this has resulted in a much better observance of this regulation.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

The following Table shows the number of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces registered in the several districts:—

District.	Factories.	Workshops	Workplaces.
Guisborough Rural ...	1	47	
Guisborough Urban ...	8	44	
Loftus Urban	5	37	
Redcar Urban	5	45	17
Saltburn Urban	5	29	
Skelton & Brotton Urban	1	55	
TOTALS ...	25	257	17=299

The Factories are:—

Printing works—7	Iron foundry—1
Aerated-water works—5	Cycle repairing works—1
Gas works—3	Brick and tile works—1
Steel foundry—1	Laundries—2
Electrical station—1	Saw-mills—2

Building works—1.

Of the 299 workshops, &c., on the Register, 274 were inspected by me during the year.

By section 14 of the Act, means of escape in case of fire require to be provided in certain factories:—there are no such factories in any of the districts in the Guisborough Union.

Section 133 of the Act states "Where any woman, young person, or child is employed in a "workshop in which no abstract of the Act is affixed as by this Act required, and the medical

“ officer of the district council becomes aware thereof, he shall forthwith give written notice “ thereof to the inspector for the district.” Under this section I forwarded seven such notices to the Inspector during the year.

Under Section 107 of the Act every occupier of a factory or workshop, in which such classes of work are carried on as shall be specified by the Secretary of State, is required to keep a list, in the form prescribed, of Out-workers employed by him in such work, and to forward a copy of such list twice a year, February 1st and August 1st, to the District Council. Under the same and other sections the Secretary of State is empowered to make a Special Order as to the classes of work to which the section shall apply. Such an Order was made in August last. Many of the forms of work therein mentioned are not carried out in any of the districts in the Guisborough Union. The following are :—

“ The making, cleaning, washing, altering, ornamenting, finishing, and repairing of wearing “ apparel and any work incidental thereto.”

“ Cabinet and furniture making and upholstery work.”

“ The making of covers for, and the covering, finishing, altering or repairing of, umbrellas, “ sunshades, parasols, and articles of a similar character, and any work incidental “ thereto.”

By the same Order Section 110 of the Act applies to the first and third classes of work mentioned and to upholstery work. This is an important section. Under it a District Council may make an order forbidding any work to which the section applies to be given out to any person living or working in a house in which a case of any notifiable infectious disease exists. In case of emergency the powers conferred on the district council may be exercised by any two or more members of the council acting on the advice of the Medical Officer of Health. It is advisable that a circular calling attention to the Order be drawn up and copies forwarded to the occupiers of the factories and workshops concerned.

In his annual report the Medical Officer of Health is requested by the Local Government Board to report on the influences affecting or threatening to affect injuriously the public health and on the action which has been taken, or which may still be needed, with a view to combat these influences. In the inspections of the districts made by me during the year, many of which were from house to house, most of the conditions noted as threatening to affect injuriously the public health pertained to dwellings, such as defective yard pavement, dampness of pantry, dampness of house walls, defects of floors, of roof, of closet walls and roof : these were reported to the Councils either in my monthly reports or by entry in the Inspectors' journals. Notices to remedy the various defects, where these had not been abated after informal notice, were served. The action required in the future is a continuance of the policy of putting into force the various public health Acts. If however there is to be any radical improvement in the public health an adequate recognition, and action thereon, by the individual of *his* duties is imperative. There is too great a tendency to attribute illness, infectious or other, to some fancied or real neglect of sanitary authorities or their officials, the sins of commission or omission of the individual receiving no consideration. Dirty houses, dirty pantries, or ill-ventilated bedrooms, unsuitable or improperly cooked food, lack of personal cleanliness,—have these no effect ? The teaching of domestic and personal hygiene in schools is urgently required and to this both district and county council should turn their attention.

Special Reports.

Special Reports as follows were laid before the Councils named :—

Date.	District.	Subject.	Recommendation.
January 3rd	Guisborough Rural	Epidemic of measles at Fryup ...	Closure of school for 5 weeks.
February 2nd	do.	Epidemic of Measles at New Marske	Closure of school for 4 weeks.
February 7th	do.	Epidemic illness among children at Scaling	Closure of school for 2 weeks.
Feby. 17th	do.	do. ...	Closure of school for another 14 days.
March 23rd	do.	Prevalence of diphtheria in the parish of Wilton	Closure of schools for 4 weeks.
May 30th ...	do.	do. ...	Re-closure of school for 3 weeks.
July 14th ...	Guisborough Urban	Epidemic of scarlet fever	Closure of schools for 4 weeks.
Deer. 3rd ...	Redcar Urban ...	Prevalence of whooping-cough among children attending Infant department of Zetland School ...	Closure of infant school for 5 weeks.

TABLE A

showing the Birth and Death Rates in the several Districts.

	Guisbro' Rural.	Guisbro' Urban.	Loftus Urban.	Redcar Urban.	Saltburn Urban.	Skelton and Brotton Urban.	Totals and Means.
Population	7900	5680	7000	8450	3400	13,450	45,880
Number of births	M. 116 F. 119 235	M. 105 F. 82 187	M. 126 F. 121 247	M. 113 F. 105 218	M. 33 F. 36 69	M. 232 F. 239 471	M. 725 F. 702 1427
Birth Rate	29·74	32·92	35·28	25·77	20·29	35·01	31·10
Number of deaths	M. 58 F. 56 114	M. 42 F. 44 86	M. 64 F. 39 103	M. 48 F. 56 104	M. 15 F. 19 34	M. 113 F. 108 221	M. 322 F. 330 652
Death Rate	14·43	15·14	14·71	12·30	10·00	16·43	14·21
Zymotic Death Rate (including Diarrhoea)	1·01	1·40	0·42	0·23	0·29	0·89	0·74
Proportion of Deaths in children under 1 year of age to each 1000 births ...	157·4	117·6	109·3	87·1	57·9	144·3	124·0
Proportion of Deaths in children under 5 years of age to each 100 deaths.	40·3	43·0	33·9	27·8	20·5	46·1	39·2

TABLE showing the number of Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year in each of the districts.

	Gisbro' Rural.	Gisbro' Urban.	Loftus Urban.	Redcar Urban.	Saltb'rn Urban.	Skelton and Brotton Urban.	Total.
Smallpox	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Scarlet Fever	12	150	31	36	14	104	347
Diphtheria	42	13	2	5	2	26	90
Enteric Fever	1	0	2	2	1	3	9
Continued Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Erysipelas	3	12	8	4	0	19	46
TOTALS	59	175	44	47	17	152	394

To the Chairman and Members of the Guisborough Rural Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 235 (116 males, 119 females); birth rate 29·74 :—the deaths 114 (58 males, 56 females), death rate 14·43. The deaths from zymotic diseases were—whooping-cough 3, diphtheria 3, diarrhœa 1; rate 1·01 per 1000 of the population.

Fifty-nine cases of infectious disease were notified, viz.: smallpox 1, diphtheria 42, scarlet fever 12, erysipelas 3, enteric fever 1. Particulars of the cases of diphtheria are given in the former part of this report. Of the 12 of scarlet fever—4 occurred in 2 houses at Dunsdale, 2 in one house at Newton, 2 in one house at Castleton, 2 in one house at Ox Close, one at Low Lackenby, and one at a Farmhouse. The single case of enteric fever (at Marske) was imported.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, the whole of the workshops (48) on the Register were inspected by me: the most of these come under the definition of ‘domestic’ workshops.

Of the 38 cowsheds on the register 36 were inspected by me:—nothing was noted calling for special remark. The slaughterhouses were also inspected.

At Marske the surface water openings into the sewer have been so altered as to prevent the escape of sewer gas, and the sewer outfall pipe, which discharges into the sea, repaired. Arrangements have also been made for the systematic flushing of the sewers.

Urban powers for the erection of refuse receptacles at Danby End, in the parish of Danby, have been obtained: suggestions as to the sites of these were laid by me before the Parish Council: particulars of the proposed structures will shortly be placed before the District Council. At the same place a small settling tank has been built to receive the slop water of a few cottages at the upper end of the village.

Inspections of the various parts of the district have been made by me and reported upon to the Council at its monthly meetings. The appended list shows the number and nature of nuisances abated during the year.

House yards repaired	-	5.
Drains repaired	-	4.
Closets and ashpits repaired		18.
Other defects remedied	-	4.
Rooms disinfected	-	40.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn,

January 15th, 1906.

GUISBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT.

Cause of, and Ages at Death, during the Year 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox							
Measles							
Scarlet fever							
Whooping-cough	3	3					
Diphtheria and membranous croup	3		2	1			
Croup	1		1				
Fever { Typhus							
Other continued							
Epidemic influenza	1						1
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa	1	1					
Enteritis							
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases	3	2					1
Phthisis	6		2		1	2	1
Other tubercular diseases	6	2		1	1	2	
Cancer, malignant disease	5					4	1
Bronchitis	5	2	1			1	1
Pneumonia	10	3	1			5	1
Pleurisy	1						1
Other diseases of Respiratory organs							
Alcoholism							
Cirrhosis of liver							
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	8	8					
Diseases and accidents of parturition							
Heart diseases	7					3	4
Accidents	2	1			1		
Suicides	1					1	
All other causes	51	15	2	2		9	23
All causes	114	37	9	4	3	27	34

To the Chairman and Members of the Guisborough Urban Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 187 (105 males, 82 females),—birth rate 32·92 :—the deaths (corrected) 86 (42 males, 44 females), rate 15·14. There was a slight increase in the number of deaths among infants. The deaths from zymotic diseases were,—scarlet fever 2, diphtheria 5; rate 1 40.

One hundred and seventy-five cases of infectious disease were notified of which 150 were scarlet fever, 13 diphtheria, 12 erysipelas: the district was completely free from enteric fever. Fourteen cases of scarlet fever were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

On my recommendation a medical attendant was appointed to attend patients in the isolation cottage, each medical man in the town holding the appointment, successively, for a period of one year, at fixed fees.

Of the 23 cowsheds on the register 17 were inspected by me during the year.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, the whole of the workshops (44) and three of the six factories were inspected by me.

Under the Housing of the Working Classes Act one house was condemned as unfit for habitation :—the required repairs were carried out.

The several slaughterhouses and the common lodginghouses were visited by me: one slaughterhouse was reconstructed.

The substitution of pails in place of the old privies, the existence of which is very evident to anyone entering the town on certain days, is very desirable. The roadway at certain points becomes polluted with filth by the deposit thereon of the contents of closets (to be carted away). Even the free use of disinfectants can only partially remedy the evil effects of soil pollution.

To permit of a better effluent from the sewage farm a catch-pit was built on the near side of the large underground tanks into which the sewage flows before going on to the land. A small experimental filter-bed has also been made: I propose to make a series of tests as to the extent to which this would assist in improving the effluent before it passes into the beck.

An improvement of the water supplied to the town has been brought about by its passage through the filters recently erected.

The various parts of the town and district have been inspected by me, sometimes in company with the Inspector and reported upon to the Council at its monthly meetings. The number and nature of defects remedied during the year are as follows :—

House yards repaired	-	-	50.
Drains repaired	-	-	23
Closets, ashpits, &c., repaired	-	-	29.
Overcrowding abated	-	-	5.
Rooms disinfected	-	-	105.
Other defects remedied	-	-	78.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn,

January 17th, 1906

GUISBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.

Cause of, and Ages at Death, during the Year 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox							
Measles							
Scarlet fever	2		1	1			
Whooping-cough							
Diphtheria and membranous croup	5		5				
Croup	1		1				
Fever { Typhus							
Other continued							
Epidemic influenza							
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa							
Enteritis	2	1	1				
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases	2					2	
Phthisis							
Other tubercular diseases	3	2				1	
Cancer, malignant disease	6					4	2
Bronchitis	4	1				2	1
Pneumonia	8	3	3			2	
Pleurisy							
Other diseases of Respiratory organs							
Alcoholism {	2					1	1
Cirrhosis of liver							
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	3	3					
Diseases and accidents of parturition							
Heart diseases	5					4	1
Accidents	1					1	
Snicides							
All other causes	42	12	4	1	3	6	16
All causes	86	22	15	2	3	23	21

To the Chairman and Members of the Loftus Urban Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 247 (126 males, 121 females),—birth rate 35·28 :—the deaths 103 (64 males, 39 females), death rate 14·71. The deaths from zymotic diseases were,—measles 1, enteric fever 1, diarrhœa 1 ; rate 0·42 per 1000 of the population.

Forty-four cases of infectious disease were notified viz : 31 of scarlet fever, 8 of erysipelas, 2 of enteric fever, 2 of diphtheria, 1 of puerperal fever. Of the 31 of scarlet fever, 24 occurred in 15 houses at Loftus, 3 in 3 houses at Skinningrove, 3 in 3 houses at Carlin How, and 1 at Upton.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, 33 of the 37 workshops and 4 of the 5 factories on the register were inspected by me.

Under the Housing of the Working Classes Act one house was certified by me as unfit for habitation :—this house was repaired.

22 of the 24 cowsheds on the register were visited by me : a few minor matters requiring attention were noted ; these received the attention of the owners or other responsible persons.

The slaughterhouses were inspected. On my recommendation notices were served upon the occupiers of these stating that no article was to be placed in any slaughterhouse other than the necessary tackle. Under Section 117 of the Public Health Act, 1875, & Section 28 of the Public Health Act's Amendment Act. 1890, I obtained a magistrate's order for the destruction of the carcase of a cow found in one of the slaughterhouses.

The accommodation for the isolation of infectious cases has been increased by the erection of a small detached iron structure.

As advised by me the sewer at West Loftus has been ventilated and manholes built therein. To prevent contamination of a small stream a new sewer has been laid to carry off slop water from the houses in Micklehow Road.

From time to time I have made inspections in all parts of the district, many of these in company with the Inspector :—particulars of matters noted requiring attention were laid before the sanitary committee at its monthly meetings (in the Inspector's Journal). In some instances the Inspector or myself communicated direct with the owners of property.

The following is a list of defects, &c., remedied during the year :—

House yards repaired	-	-	12.
Closets, ashpits, &c., repaired	-	-	19.
Other defects remedied	-	-	15.
Rooms disinfected	-	-	26.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn,

January 17th, 1906.

LOFTUS URBAN DISTRICT.

Cause of, and Ages at Death, during the Year 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH			DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
			All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox	...	...							
Measles	...	...	1	1					
Scarlet fever	...	...							
Whooping-cough	...	...							
Diphtheria and membranous croup	...	...							
Croup	...	...							
Fever	Typhus	...							
	Enteric	...	1				1		
	Other continued	...							
Epidemic influenza	...	...	3			1		2	
Cholera	...	...							
Plague	...	...							
Diarrhœa	...	...	1	1					
Enteritis	...	...	1						1
Puerperal fever	...	...	1					1	
Erysipelas	...	...							
Other septic diseases	...	...	1			1			
Phthisis	...	...	5				3	2	
Other tubercular diseases	...	...	3			2	1		
Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	5					3	2
Bronchitis	...	...	15	12	1			1	1
Pneumonia	...	...	14	3	4	1		5	1
Pleurisy	...	...							
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	...	...							
Alcoholism	}	...	2					2	
Cirrhosis of liver		...							
Venereal diseases	...	...							
Premature birth	...	...	2	2					
Diseases and accidents of parturition	...	...							
Heart diseases	...	...	8					3	5
Accidents	...	...	2					2	
Suicides	...	...							
All other causes	...	...	38	8	3	1		7	19
All causes	...	...	103	27	8	6	5	28	29

To the Chairman and Members of the Redcar Urban Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 218 (113 males, 105 females), birth rate 25·77 :—the deaths 104 (48 males, 56 females), rate 12·30. The deaths from zymotic diseases were, measles 1, whooping-cough 1,—rate 0·23. The number of deaths of infants (under one year) per 1000 births registered was low, 87·1. The proportion of deaths in children under five to each 100 deaths was also low, 27·8.

Forty-seven cases of infectious disease were notified ; of these 36 were scarlet fever, 5 diphtheria, 4 erysipelas, 2 enteric fever. Twenty-four of those of scarlet fever were removed to the Isolation Cottage. The earlier of the two of enteric fever was imported, it is more than probable that the second resulted from the first.

On June 11th, I received notice that a seaman from a vessel which had been in quarantine at Hamburg on suspicion of having plague infected rats on board had come to his home in Redcar. I called at his residence and also communicated with his medical attendant. Being advised next day by wire that a fellow seaman had developed plague I recommended the person referred to to go into quarantine (in the Hospital near New Marske) for a few days ; this he did. I visited him there several times. On my advice some of his clothing was destroyed, the Council paying compensation.

It is desirable that the method by which information is conveyed to the health officer of persons coming into his district from vessels on which cases of smallpox, plague, etc. have occurred should be altered. These are generally forwarded to the Clerk of the Council, being directed to the Council Office. They are forwarded on to the Clerk at his private office, then to the health officer. In this way there is often considerable delay. In some instances when I have called at the residence named in the letter of advice the individual has come and gone.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, 60 of the 67 factories, workshops, and workplaces on the register were inspected by me.

All the 24 cowsheds on the register were also seen by me.

The scavenging has been carried out satisfactorily. There is no common lodginghouse in the town.

Alluding to the projected Conjoint Infectious Hospital mentioned in the first part of this report I would say that the provision of a properly equipped hospital is a special necessity in the case of Redcar. As a town Redcar is specially open to the importation of infection not only through the thousands of visitors who throng to it in the summer but through the attendance of children living in Redcar at schools in the neighbouring towns.

Inspections of the district have been made by me from time to time and reported upon to the Sanitary Committee at its monthly meetings. Appended is a list of nuisances, abated, etc. during the year :—

House yards repaired	-	-	12.
Drains repaired	-	-	120.
Closets and ashpits repaired	-	-	41.
Rooms disinfected	-	-	38.
Other defects remedied	-	-	13.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn,

January 17th, 1906.

REDCAR URBAN DISTRICT.

Cause of, and Ages at Death, during the Year 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox							
Measles	1		1				
Scarlet fever							
Whooping-cough	1		1				
Diphtheria and membranous croup							
Croup							
Fever { Typhus							
Enteric							
Other continued							
Epidemic influenza							
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa							
Enteritis	3	1	1			1	
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases							
Phthisis	4					3	1
Other tubercular diseases	3			2	1		
Cancer, malignant disease	4					2	2
Bronchitis	6	2	2				2
Pneumonia	14		1		1	8	4
Pleurisy							
Other diseases of Respiratory organs							
Alcoholism }	1					1	
Cirrhosis of liver }							
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	5	5					
Diseases and accidents of parturition	2					2	
Heart diseases	7					3	4
Accidents	1					1	
Suicides	1				1		
All other causes	57	11	4			12	24
All causes	104	19	10	2	3	33	37

To the Chairman and Members of the Saltburn Urban Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 69 (33 males, 36 females); birth rate 20·29 :—the deaths 34 (15 males, 19 females), death rate 10·00. The only death from infectious disease was one due to enteric fever.

Seventeen cases were reported under the Notification Act during the year, viz. 14 of scarlet fever, two of erysipelas, and one of enteric fever. Particulars of the cases of scarlet fever are given in the first part of this report. The provision of accommodation for the isolation of cases of infectious disease demands the serious consideration of the Council. For many years the town has enjoyed a comparative freedom from such cases; this has induced a sense of security which is not warranted. This comparative freedom is in part due to the relatively small proportion of children susceptible to scarlet fever. The increasing population and increasing birth rate will alter this. Fortunately the outbreak of scarlet fever began after the summer season; had it occurred during the season it would have seriously affected the trade of the town.

Under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, I inspected 30 of the 34 factories and workshops on the register.

Of the four cowsheds on the register I visited three: in two of these certain necessary structural alterations have been carried out.

The three slaughterhouses were inspected by me: in one some repairs and alterations were required and I advised that the yearly licence should not be renewed until they were carried out; recently on asking the Inspector whether the work had been done I was informed by him that place was no longer used as a slaughterhouse.

Complaints being made to me of the nuisance caused by the effluvium from a fried-fish shop I reported upon the matter to the Council: legal proceedings were taken against the occupier who was convicted, a fine being imposed. Later it was found necessary to again put the law into force against the same person: again a conviction ensued. The defendant subsequently vacated the premises.

The beck through Hazelgrove was cleaned out, its bed straightened and graded to proper falls.

The following is a list of the defaults remedied during the year :—

House yards repaired	-	-	10.
Drains repaired	-	-	2.
Closets and ashpits repaired	-	-	50.
W.Cs. substituted for ordinary closets			4.
Overcrowding abated	-	-	2.
Other defects remedied	-	-	18.
Rooms disinfected	-	-	20.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn,

January 18th, 1906.

SALTBURN URBAN DISTRICT.

Cause of, and Ages at Death, during the Year 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
		All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox	...							
Measles	...							
Scarlet fever	...							
Whooping-cough	...							
Diphtheria and membranous croup	...							
Croup	...							
Fever	Typhus							
	Enteric	1					1	
	Other continued							
Epidemic influenza	...							
Cholera	...							
Plague	...							
Diarrhœa	...							
Enteritis	...							
Puerperal fever	...							
Erysipelas	...							
Other septic diseases	...							
Phthisis	...							
Other tubercular diseases	...	4		1		2	1	
Cancer, malignant disease	...	2					1	1
Bronchitis	...	1	1					
Pneumonia	...	2		1			1	
Pleurisy	...	1					1	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	...							
Alcoholism	...	2						2
Cirrhosis of liver	...							
Venereal diseases	...							
Premature birth	...	2	2					
Diseases and accidents of parturition	...							
Heart diseases	...	4		1			2	1
Accidents	...							
Suicides	...	1					1	
All other causes	...	14	1				9	1
All causes	...	34	4	3	0	2	17	8

To the Chairman and Members of the Skelton and Brotton Urban Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The births registered during the year numbered 471 (232 males, 239 females) ; birth rate 35·01 :—the deaths 221 (113 males, 108 females), death rate 16·43. The deaths from zymotic diseases were :—scarlet fever 1, whooping-cough 2, diphtheria 5, enteric fever 2, diarrhœa 1 :—rate 0·89. The death rate of infants (under one year) per 1000 births registered is high, 144·3. An analysis of the death returns shows that 68 occurred among infants, nearly one-third of the total (221) : of these 15 were certified as due to premature birth, 10 to atrophy, marasmus, &c., 10 to tubercular diseases, 7 to bronchitis, 6 to convulsions.

The following Table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified in the several parts of the dirtrict.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.
Charlton's Cottages, &c. ...	6 in 3 houses	2 in 2 houses	0	0
Carlin How ...	7 in 5 „	0	1	1
Boosbeck ...	10 in 7 „	3 in 2 „	0	3
Brotton ...	12 in 9 „	13 in 10 „	1	5
Lingdale ...	13 in 9 „	0	1	5
Moorsholm ...	0	0	0	2
New Skelton ...	2 in 2 „	1	0	0
North Skelton ...	4 in 2 „	1	0	0
Skelton ...	18 in 10 „	0	0	1
Skelton Green ...	19 in 8 „	1	0	0
Margrove Park ...	13 in 8 „	5 in 2 „	0	2
Totals ...	104 in 63 „	26 in 19 „	3	19

Under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, I inspected 53 of the 56 factories and workshops on the register.

Under the Housing of the Working Classes Act two houses were condemned by me as unfit for habitation : both were repaired.

To meet the lack of house accommodation the Council took, on a lease, 20 unoccupied cottages at Dunsdale in the Guisborough rural district : these were put into a good state of repair (by the Council) and are now occupied, eight by workers in the Skelton and Brotton district, twelve by workers in other districts.

In addition, 13 houses were built and occupied during the year. Twenty-five houses in various parts of the district are in course of erection.

The whole of the slaughterhouses and 20 of the 22 cowsheds were visited by me.

The pressure of water in the higher parts of the district is improved.

A considerable length of the 21-inch main sewer collapsed owing to subsidence from mines working: this was relaid. This portion of the sewer being deeply laid the cost of reconstruction was great.

Inspections of the whole of the district were made by me from time to time, many of these being from house to house. The following is a list of the defaults remedied during the year :—

House yards repaired	-	-	73.
Drains repaired	-	-	13.
Closets and ashpits repaired	-	-	32.
Overcrowding abated	-	-	4.
Other defects remedied	-	-	203.
Rooms disinfected	-	-	93.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. W. STAINTHORPE.

Saltburn,

January 18th, 1906.

SKELTON & BROTTON URBAN DISTRICT.
Cause of, and Ages at Death, during the Year 1905.

CAUSES OF DEATH.			DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
			All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox	...	...							
Measles	...	...							
Scarlet fever	...	...	1					1	
Whooping-cough	...	...	2	2					
Diphtheria and membranous croup	...	...	5		5				
Croup	...	...	1			1			
Fever	Typhus	...							
	Enteric	...	2			1		1	
	Other continued	...							
Epidemic influenza	...	...	4			1		3	
Cholera	...	...							
Plague	...	...							
Diarrhœa	...	...	1	1					
Enteritis	...	...	1		1				
Puerperal fever	...	...							
Erysipelas	...	...							
Other septic diseases	...	...							
Phthisis	...	...	14	3			6	5	
Other tubercular diseases	...	...	16	7	5	3		1	
Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	7					7	
Bronchitis	...	...	17	7	4		2	2	2
Pneumonia	...	...	17	2	7	1		7	
Pleurisy	...	...							
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	...	...							
Alcoholism	...	...	3					3	
Cirrhosis of liver	...	...							
Venereal diseases	...	...	1					1	
Premature birth	...	...	15	15					
Diseases and accidents of parturition	...	...							
Heart diseases	...	...	11				1	8	2
Accidents	...	...	3					3	
Suicides	...	...							
All other causes	...	...	100	31	12	3	1	14	39
All causes	...	...	221	68	34	10	10	56	43

